

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION

Dominic Concetti,

No. C 07-05410 JW

Plaintiff,

**PRELIMINARY PRETRIAL CONFERENCE
SCHEDULING ORDER - (JURY TRIAL)**

v.

Impac Funding Corp., et al.,

Defendant.

On October 20, 2008, the Court conducted a Preliminary Pretrial Conference. Counsel for the respective parties were present. In light of the discussion at the conference, the Court orders as follows:

- (1) This Order is stayed against Defendants Universal Mortgage and Sales, Inc. and Raymond Flores, pursuant to their filings of bankruptcy. (See Docket Item Nos. 31, 45, respectively.)
- (2) The parties shall have until **December 31, 2008** to complete all of their discovery.
- (3) An Interim Case Management Conference is set for **January 26, 2009 at 10 a.m.** On or before **January 16, 2009**, the parties shall file a Joint Case Management Statement. The Statement shall, among other things, update the Court on the parties' discovery efforts and the status of Defendants who have filed for bankruptcy.

TRIAL SCHEDULE

Final Pretrial Conference (§4)	April 20, 2009 at 3 P.M.
Joint Pretrial Conference Statement, <i>In Limine</i> Motions, and Proposed Jury Instructions Due (30 days before Final Pretrial Conference)	March 20, 2009
Jury Selection	May 5, 2009 at 9 A.M.
Jury Trial Date and Sessions¹ Sessions 1-3 Sessions 4-8 Argue & Submit Jury Deliberations	May 6 - 8, 2009, 1 - 4 P.M. May 12 - 15, 2009, 1 - 4 P.M. May 19, 2009, 1 - 4 P.M. May 20 - 22, 2009

Meet and Confer Requirement

1. No later than 30 days prior to the Final Pretrial Conference, the parties shall meet and confer with respect to the Joint Pretrial Conference Statement, submission of a joint list of witnesses, a joint list of trial exhibits and a joint list of discovery material which each party intends to offer in evidence as a part of its case-in-chief. Unless objections are made in accord with this Order, all witnesses, exhibits and discovery material contained on the joint submission shall be deemed admissible into evidence by stipulation.

Objections and Lodging Disputed Material with the Court

2. If a party objects to receipt into evidence of a witness, exhibits or discovery response, the party shall advise all opposing parties during the conference described in Paragraph 1, and attempt to resolve the dispute. If the parties are unsuccessful in resolving the dispute, any party wishing to object to receipt of the testimony of any witness, any exhibit or discovery response into evidence shall lodge with Chambers a copy of the disputed material at the commencement of trial. Attached to the submission shall be a brief statement of the objection and any response by the

¹ Jury trials are held in afternoon sessions from 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Tuesdays through Fridays unless the Court otherwise specifies. At the Final Pretrial Conference, the Court reserves the right to fold the afternoon sessions into morning sessions (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) thus creating full days for trial. The final trial schedule will be confirmed at the Final Pretrial Conference.

1 proffering party. The Court will indicate on the submitted copy whether the objection is overruled
2 or sustained and return the material to counsel.

3 **Lodging Joint Pretrial Conference Statement, In Limine Motions**

4 **and Proposed Jury Instructions**

5 3. Pursuant to the date set forth in the Case Schedule, the parties shall file and lodge
6 with Chambers the following:

- 7 a. Joint Pretrial Conference Statement: The parties shall file a joint pretrial
8 statement which shall contain the following information: (1) a brief
9 description of the substance of claims and defenses which remain to be
10 decided; (2) a detailed statement of all the relief claimed, particularly
11 itemizing all elements of damages claimed as well as witnesses, documents or
12 other evidentiary material to be presented concerning the amount of those
13 damages; (3) a plain and concise statement of all relevant facts not reasonably
14 disputable, as well as which facts the parties will stipulate for incorporation
15 into the trial record without the necessity of supporting testimony or exhibits;
16 (4) a plain and concise statement of all disputed factual issues which remain
17 to be decided; (5) a statement assessing whether all or part of the action may
18 be presented upon an agreed statement of facts; (6) a statement of stipulations
19 requested or proposed for pretrial or trial purposes; (7) without extended legal
20 argument, a concise statement of each disputed point of law concerning
21 liability or relief, citing supporting statutes and decisions; (8) a list of all
22 witnesses likely to be called at trial; (9) a list of evidence the parties intend to
23 present at trial through use of excerpts from depositions, from interrogatory
24 answers, or from responses to requests for admission; and (10) any other
25 subjects relevant to the trial of the action, or material to its just, speedy and
26 inexpensive determination. **Counsel are directed to meet and confer in**

advance of the date for submission of pretrial material with respect to the pretrial conference statement.

- b. In Limine Motions: Any *In limine* motions shall be filed in writing and submitted along with the Joint Final Pretrial Conference Statement. Any opposition shall be filed in writing and served no later than fifteen (15) days before the Final Pretrial Conference. **Five (5) days** before the date of the Final Pretrial Conference, the parties shall organize their **in limine** motions as follows:

- (1) Each side shall be responsible for producing a combined folder with all of *their* in limine motions, oppositions to their motions (if any), and replies (if any), respectively. The motion papers shall be clearly marked and separated in one single binder. The binder shall contain a table of contents, listing each motion with a short sentence regarding the grounds for in limine and a short sentence regarding the opposition; all statements must be supported by proper citations to the motions. **The table of contents shall also be saved on a 3½ floppy disk in MS Word or WordPerfect format to be attached inside the binder.**
- (2) Please note that this binder is not a substitute for filing the motions and related papers via ECF; it is designed for the Court to evaluate the motions. Two copies of the binder shall be delivered to the Court (by way of the Clerk's Office) no later than **five (5) days before the date of the Final Pretrial Conference by 4 PM.** The parties must also bring the binder to the Final Pretrial Conference for their own references.
- (3) These motions will be deemed submitted without oral argument, unless the Court orders otherwise.

- c. Proposed Jury Instructions: The parties shall filed their Proposed Jury Instructions thirty (30) days before the date of the Final Pretrial Conference. **The parties shall bring to the Final Pretrial Conference their Proposed Jury Instructions on a 3½ floppy disk in MS Word or WordPerfect format.**

Final Pretrial Conference

4. The Court will conduct a Final Pretrial Conference on the date set forth in the Case Schedule. The trial attorneys must attend the conference. At the final pretrial conference, the Court

1 will consider issues raised in the Final Pretrial Conference Statement, motions *in limine* and discuss
2 the procedures for trial of the case.

3 **Lodging Witness Lists and Exhibit Lists**

4 5. At the Final Pretrial Conference, the parties shall lodge with Chambers the joint list
5 of witnesses, and a joint list of exhibits. Unless otherwise ordered, all exhibits shall be in a format
6 compatible with either the video or digital evidence presentation system utilized by the Court. The
7 proffering party shall retain custody of all exhibits, schedules, summaries, diagrams or charts to be
8 used at the trial.

9 6. To accommodate consideration of electronic exhibits, as the trial progresses, the
10 parties will load images of the admitted exhibits onto a stand alone hard drive or CD or DVD in
11 “pdf” format. The parties shall ensure that, apart from whatever technical material is necessary to
12 operate the system, the CD, DVD or hard drive contains only the items specified in this order and
13 nothing else. The images will be placed in a folder labeled “Admitted Exhibits” that shall contain
14 all trial exhibits received into evidence. In addition to the exhibits, themselves, the folder shall
15 contain a file labeled “List of Admitted Exhibits by Exhibit Number.” The “List” shall list in
16 numerical order by Trial Exhibit Number, each admitted exhibit, along with the date of the
17 document (where available), and a brief description of the exhibit. To the extend practicable, the
18 “List” shall be text searchable and hyperlinked to the Exhibits, themselves. The folder shall contain
19 a second file labeled “List of Admitted Exhibits by Date.” This second “List” shall contain the
20 same information, except that the exhibits will be listed in chronological order, according to the date
21 the document was prepared. The external stand alone hard drive or CD or DVD and a printed copy
22 of the exhibit lists will be marked as exhibits and placed in evidence as demonstrative exhibits.

23 7. Before the case is submitted for decision, each party will be deemed to have had an
24 opportunity to review the material described in the previous paragraph to ensure their accuracy.
25 Unless a party objects before the case is submitted for decision to the judge or jury, the party will be
26 deemed to have waived any and all objections to the submitted materials.

1 8. To accommodate review of electronic exhibits, the parties will jointly provide the
2 jury with the following equipment: a laptop computer, the external stand alone hard drive, CD or
3 DVD, a printer (and, if practicable, an LCD projector).

4 9. During its closing instructions, the Court will advise the jury of the form in which
5 exhibits will be submitted to them. The jury will also be instructed that, unless impracticable, upon
6 a juror's written request, a printed copy of any exhibit received in evidence will be provided to the
7 jury. Before the jury retires to deliberate, the parties will provide a tutorial to the jurors on how to
8 operate the equipment, how to view the exhibits, and how to print the exhibits if the jury wishes to
9 do so. A written set of instructions on operations of the equipment will be sent into the jury room.

10 10. When the jury is deliberating, at least one lawyer for each side shall remain in close
11 proximity to the courtroom. In the event of any technical problem, or if the jurors have questions
12 about how to operate the equipment, the jurors shall pass a note to the clerk, just as with any other
13 questions they may have. The Court will read the note to the lawyers. Those lawyers shall consult
14 with each other and with their respective technicians, and propose to the Court how they wish to
15 address the technical problem.

16 11. The parties shall maintain a backup laptop computer and a backup hard drive with
17 identical images and data at the courthouse such that, in the event of a technical problem that cannot
18 be quickly and easily remedied, the equipment can be replaced.

19 12. Unless the Court orders otherwise for good cause shown, the expense of the
20 equipment and the costs of preparation of the Lists and Exhibits will be shared equally among the
21 parties.

22 13. This Standing Order also applies to cases tried to the Court sitting without a jury,
23 except that paragraphs 8-11 do not apply.

24 14. The parties are ordered to meet and confer in advance of trial to establish a procedure
25 for complying with this Order with respect to electronic exhibits.

15. Upon request, in non-complex cases the Court will excuse the parties from using electronic formatted documents. In that event on the first day of trial, the parties shall submit exhibits as follows:

- a. A copy for the trial judge;
- b. A copy for the witness stand. Although the Court's copy of exhibits shall be in a single binder, the Court prefers the parties to prepare a binder for each witness, which contains only those documents pertinent to that witness.
- c. No duplicates of a document shall be submitted, unless the duplicate copy has independent evidentiary value to prove some disputed issue of material fact (e.g., date stamp to prove receipt on a particular date, where date of receipt is a disputed issue of a material fact).

Jury Trial Schedule

16. The time allowed for trial shall be divided equally between the plaintiff's side and the defendant's side. Co-parties are ordered to meet, confer and agree to an allocation among themselves. A party may spend its allocated time presenting its own case or on cross-examination of witnesses called by other parties or for presentation of a counterclaim. When a party's allocated time period has expired, unless otherwise ordered for good cause shown, no further time will be allowed to that party if it would interfere with the ability of the opposing party to present its case.

Trial Procedure

17. In opening statements, counsel shall not express personal knowledge or opinion concerning any matter in issue.

18. Counsel must question witnesses from the podium, using the microphone. Without requesting permission, counsel may approach witnesses for any proper purposes.

19. Address all remarks to the Court, not to opposing counsel.

20. Refer to all persons, including witnesses, other counsel and the parties by their surnames and not by their first or given names.

21. In examining a witness, counsel shall not repeat or echo the answer given by the witness.

22. Counsel must stand when making an objection.

23. Conferences at the bench or sidebar are not favored by the Court. Any sidebar conferences which are allowed will be off the record. If any counsel wishes to place matters on the record, he or she may so request, and the Court will make a responsive order.

24. Counsel have full responsibility to arrange for the appearance of witnesses during the presentation of their case so as to eliminate delay caused by waiting for witnesses who have been placed on call by counsel.

25. Unless an agreement to the contrary is entered into by opposing counsel, all nonparty or nonexpert witnesses will be excluded from the courtroom when not testifying. When a witness has completed his or her testimony, the witness is excused unless counsel indicates that he or she wishes the witness to remain subject to being recalled. Any witness who has been excused from further testimony may remain as a spectator. It will be the responsibility of counsel to make an announcement at the time the witness steps down that he or she should remain in the environs of the Court for a reasonable time to permit such counsel an opportunity to secure and serve a subpoena upon the witness and assume responsibility for his or her per diem and other expenses as provided by governing rule or statute.

26. Counsel shall admonish all persons at counsel table that gestures, facial expressions, audible comments, or the like, as manifestations of approval or disapproval during the testimony of witnesses, or at any other time, are prohibited.

27. Witness examination shall consist of direct examination, cross-examination and re-direct examination. No recross-examination will be allowed without prior approval of the Court specifically indicating the area for recross-examination. When there are multiple defense counsel, they are directed to confer and designate to the Court the sequence in which they wish to be recognized during trial for purposes of presenting opening statements and conducting cross-examination of witnesses. If one counsel conducts the direct examination of a witness, that same

1 counsel must make objections when the witness is cross-examined. Counsel who will conduct the
2 cross-examination should object while the witness is on direct.

3 28. After the commencement of trial testimony, upon request of co-parties, any objection,
4 motion or other application for relief made by any co-party, orally or in writing, shall be deemed to
5 be adopted and joined in by every other co-party, without announcement by counsel to that effect,
6 and the rulings of the Court shall be deemed applicable to each party unless otherwise stated at the
7 time the ruling is made. Accordingly, it shall be regarded as unnecessary and improper for counsel
8 to rise to "join in" an objection or motion. Rather, counsel should rise to be heard only for the
9 purpose of expressly opting out of an objection or motion if that is his or her position.

10 29. Counsel are directed to deliver to opposing counsel at the end of each trial day (if not
11 earlier) a list of witnesses counsel anticipates calling the next trial day.

12 30. Counsel calling a non-client witness to testify should have no further discussions with
13 that witness concerning the case or any aspect of his or her testimony after the witness has been
14 tendered for cross-examination and until such time as the witness has been tendered back for redirect
15 examination. At all other times, within the bounds of governing ethics and the law, counsel may
16 engage in discussions with witnesses during trial.

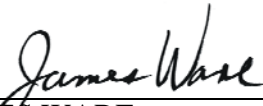
17 31. Any time taken away from presentation of evidence to the trier of fact due to, for
18 example, lengthy legal motions made during the time allocated to the presentation of evidence, or
19 delays in the commencement of proceedings due to circumstances within the control of counsel, will
20 be deducted from the time allocated for the presentation of evidence. Upon timely application based
21 upon good cause, the Court may relieve a party of its stipulation to the agreed schedule.

22 32. It is the practice of the Court periodically to inform counsel of the Court's record of
23 how much time each side has remaining for the presentation of evidence based upon the stipulated
24 trial schedule.

Daily Trial Transcript

33. Any counsel desiring daily or expedited transcripts during trial should make immediate arrangements with the court reporter and should inform the Court and other counsel of such intentions.

Dated: October 20, 2008



JAMES WARE
United States District Judge

1 **THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT COPIES OF THIS ORDER HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO:**

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8 **Dated: October 20, 2008**

Richard W. Wieking, Clerk

By: /s/ JW Chambers
Elizabeth Garcia
Courtroom Deputy

United States District Court
For the Northern District of California